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12-16-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: James P. HEARN

Confirmation No.: 5436

Application No.: 10/073,133

Group Art Unit: 3732

Filed: February 13, 2002

Examiner: PRIDDY

For: STERNUM FIXATION DEVICE

Attorney Docket No.: 8932-292

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 10, 2003, Applicant provisionally elects Species O, as depicted in Fig. 18, for prosecution at this time, with the understanding that the claims shall be restricted to this species only if no claim that is generic to the other species is finally held to be allowable. The following claims are believed to be readable on Species O: 1-3, 6, 8-14, 16, 17, and 23. Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications to protect any of the non-elected species.

No fee is believed to be due for this submission. Should any fees be required, however, please charge such fees to Pennie & Edmonds Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 8, 2003


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